



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
United States Patent and Trademark Office
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/630,890	07/30/2003	Christophe Ulrici	085488-9116	7947
23409	7590	06/29/2006		EXAMINER
				NOLAND, THOMAS
			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			2856	

DATE MAILED: 06/29/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)
	10/630,890	ULRICI ET AL.
	Examiner Thomas P. Noland	Art Unit 2856

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1) Responsive to communication(s) filed on 07 April 2006.
 2a) This action is FINAL. 2b) This action is non-final.
 3) Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4) Claim(s) 1-23 and 25 is/are pending in the application.
 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
 5) Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
 6) Claim(s) 1-23 and 25 is/are rejected.
 7) Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
 8) Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9) The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
 10) The drawing(s) filed on 07 April 2006 is/are: a) accepted or b) objected to by the Examiner.
 Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
 Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
 11) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

12) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 a) All b) Some * c) None of:
 1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

1) Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
 2) Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
 3) Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
 Paper No(s)/Mail Date 20040105.

4) Interview Summary (PTO-413)
 Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____.
 5) Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
 6) Other: _____.

1. Applicant's election without traverse of the invention of Group 1, claims 1-23 and 25 in the reply filed on April 7, 2006 is acknowledged.
2. The amendment filed Dec. 7, 2006, which cancelled the claim to the nonelected group has been entered.
3. The abstract of the disclosure is objected to because it should be written as one paragraph only and because terminology such as " said " as in lines 2, 4 and should not be used. Correction is required. See MPEP § 608.01(b).
4. The disclosure is objected to because of the following informalities: on page 1, line 16 " AP-0743256 " has been replaced with - - - EP-0743256 - - -. Appropriate correction is required.
5. The following is a quotation of the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall conclude with one or more claims particularly pointing out and distinctly claiming the subject matter which the applicant regards as his invention.
6. Claims 9, 11 and 16 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention.

Because of lack of antecedent in claim 9, line 2 " its end " should be - - - and end thereof - - -. Claim 11 is unclear because of the use of the plural " contactors " in line 2 and the singular " contactor " in line 3. There is no antecedent for " the body " in claim 16, line 1.

7. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

8. Claims 1-6, 12-16, 21-23 and 25 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Carmichael US 6,203,204, cited in the IDS.

Note abstract, Figs. 1-3, col. 2, line 39-col. 3, line 13, col. 3, lines 43-57 and col. 4, lines 6-14.

9. Claims 1-19 and 21-23 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Foster et al US 6,422,075, cited in the IDS.

Note abstract, Figs. 1-3 and col. 3, line 31-col. 4, line 25. The connection elements show features that can be interpreted to have the claimed shapes.

10. Claims 1, 12, 21-23 and 25 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Ouchi US 5,938,346.

Note abstract, Figs. 1-6 and col. 4, line 65-col. 6, line 27.

11. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

12. Claim 20 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Carmichael in view of Paolo et al US 5,756,894, cited in the IDS.

Carmichael does not show the use of an O ring seal around the sensor but such would have been an obvious expedient to allow for sealing detachment to allow for ease in sensor substitution for repair, etc. in view of the teaching of such in the similar sensor of Paolo et al. Note abstract, drawings and col. 3, lines 16-19 therein.

13. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure. The cited references show systems for mounting sensors to bearings.

14. In view of the election the Art Unit location of your application in the USPTO has changed. To aid in correlating any papers for this application, all further correspondence regarding this application should be directed to Art Unit 2856, Examiner Thomas Noland.

15. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Tom Noland whose telephone number is (571) 272-2202. The examiner can normally be reached on weekdays from 9:00 to 5:30.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Mr. Hezron E. Williams, can be reached on (571) 272-2208.

The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is (571) 273-8300.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to 2800 Customer Service at (571) 272-2815.

Thomas P. Noland
Primary Examiner
Art Unit 2856

June 25, 2006

